S.No.	Name of the State		Name of the District
3.	Gujarat	5.	Dangs
4.	Jharkhand	6.	Lohadagga
		7.	Gumla
		8.	Simdega
5.	Karnataka	9.	Gulbarga
6.	Kerala	10.	Palakkad
7.	Madhya Pradesh	11.	Barwani
		12.	Mandla
		13.	West Nimar (Khargone)
8.	Maharashtra	14.	Gadchiroli
		15.	Bhandara
9.	Rajasthan	16.	Banswara
		17.	Dungarpur
10.	Tamil Nadu	18.	Tiruvannamalai
11.	Uttar Pradesh	19.	Sonbhadra
		20.	Rae Bareli
		21.	Unnao
		22.	Sitapur
		23.	Hardoi
12.	West Bengal	24.	Purulia
		25.	Jalpaiguri

Persons Below Poverty Line

†1065. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the yard-stick to assess a person or family living below the poverty line;

(b) whether such an assessment is made every year;

(c) whether the number of persons living below the poverty line is increasing or decreasing annually; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The Planning Commission has adopted per capita consumption expenditure as the yard stick to assess a person living below the poverty line. The per capita consumption norm has been fixed at Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 24000 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The State-specific poverty lines are drived from the national level poverty lines, using State-specific price indices and inter-state price differentials. The national poverty line at 1999-2000 prices is Rs. 327.56 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs. 454.11 per month in urban areas.

(b) to (d) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at National and State level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest such survey was conducted in 1999-2000 (NSS 55th Round). As such, the estimate of persons living below the poverty line is not available on an annual basis. The poverty ratios estimated from the last three large survey data for the years 1987-88, 1993-94 and 1999-2000 given below shows that the percentage of persons living below poverty line in the country has come down from 38.9% in 1987-88 to 26.1% in 1999-2000.

Percentage and Number of Poor

Year	Poverty Ratio(%)			Number of Poor (million)		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
1987-88	39.1	38.2	38.9	231.9	75.2	307.1
1993-94	37.3	32.4	36.0	244.0	76.3	320.3
1999-2000	27.1	23.6	26.1	193.2	67.0	260.2

National Human Development Report

1066. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the Planning Commission's National Human Development Report, 2002;